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United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20250

JAN 17 2006

Mr. Paul Rechlin
Executive Director
CommunityWorks North Dakota
Lewis and Clark Regional Development Council
400 East Broadway
Suite 418
Bismarck, North Dakota 58501

Dear Mr. Rechlin:

Thank you very much for sharing your thoughts on the 2007 Farm Bill with us.

Farm Bill issues are and will continue to be an important focus of the Department of Agriculture, and your insights and suggestions are very important to me. I assure you that your ideas will be given full consideration as we develop our 2007 Farm Bill proposals.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Johanns", written in a cursive style.

Mike Johanns
Secretary